

Radio Gloucestershire Interview 08.06.16

On Wednesday 8th June, Nick Nelson, Head of History of Art and Director of Culture, welcomed Dominic Cotter of Radio Gloucestershire to Cheltenham College for a radio discussion in College Chapel. This will be broadcast on Monday 13th June after 1pm. Nick is a regular on Dominic's radio programme, rounding up the arts' schedule in Gloucestershire and further afield. Principally, this event was designed to introduce Dominic to the College's buildings – in particular the Chapel of St Mary and St George. Furthermore, Dominic is intrigued by our thriving Arts programme at College, which is open to the local community, and this provided an opportunity to discuss a range of forthcoming events.

Using the recently printed Chapel Brochure written by Nick as a prompt for discussion, Dominic toured the interior and exterior of the Chapel, pausing at the Wilson window, to discuss the legendary OC; poring over his original sketchbooks with College Archivist Christine Leighton.

Given the innumerate references in the Chapel to the former Cheltonians who lost their lives in the Great War, discussion inevitably turned to commemoration and reflection in another key centenary year. In November, the College host a significant WW1 exhibition in Thirlestaine Long Gallery, which will be open to the public at specific times between Monday 7th and Saturday 12th November. This exhibition will be the third commemorative exhibition in a series of remembrance at the College, in respect of nearly 700 Cheltonians who died in the First World War.

Once Nick and Dominic had looked ahead to arts events for the remainder of the summer term, including Grant Ford's imminent talk on Picture Dealing at Sotheby's and separately Alex Ffinch's organ recital on June 15th, their reflections turned to the Autumn Term Arts programme at College, featuring the annual Heritage Open Day and, notably, the Dream of Gerontius to be performed in College Chapel.